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COMPANY MEETING.
WILLIAM POWELL LTD.

The 16th ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the above was held at the Company's offices yesterday, at noon. Mr. G. C. Moxon presided, and those also present were:—Messrs. H. J. Gedge (Director), Mr. Percy Smith, E. M. Raymond, G. Martin, and E. Mauricio, with Mr. H. O. Holt (Secretary).

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting, after which

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, the printed report and balance sheet of our account for the year ending 28th Feb., 1917, has now been in your hands for some days and I will, with your consent, take them as read. It is with great pleasure that your board are enabled to lay before you the figures disclosed in the balance sheet, and I trust you will appreciate the hard work and care on the part of your present Manager and Staff which has led to the satisfactory results now shown. You will be interested to hear that, in spite of war times and consequent trading difficulties, our turnover has considerably increased—in fact, has reached a record. Turning to the balance sheet, you will notice that our stock has increased from \$127,116.39 to \$170,286.32. This is a matter for congratulation, as nearly all good merchandise is more and more difficult to obtain, and satisfaction may be felt that we possess a large amount of clean merchantable goods. Sundry debtors are slightly increased as compared with last year, due to the larger business we are doing. After deducting the debit balance of \$12,183.05, carried over from last year, we have a net profit of \$24,044.29 to deal with. As stated, your Directors propose to apportion this as follows:—\$10,000 for the creation of a General Reserve Fund, \$4,104.47 to write off fixtures and fittings, and to carry forward the balance of \$9,939.82. Your stock has been checked by such means as your Board could devise, and they are of opinion that its value is fully stated in the balance sheet. In view of the difficulties and uncertainties through which we are passing, and the uncertainty of the future as regards all imports from Europe and America, your Board have created a general reserve of \$10,000, which they consider absolutely essential. Furniture and fittings have been written down from \$5,104.47 to \$4,000, which I think you will agree is a prudent step, as, of course, such fixtures are only valuable to us as a going concern, and have no market value. The sum remaining after the foregoing provisions amounts to \$9,939.82, a sum insufficient to provide any reasonable dividend, and it appears to your Board that it is advisable to carry this sum forward to our next account, and thus strengthen the Company. In this course they have received the support of some of the largest shareholders. I am glad to inform you that so far this year has opened well for us, and given no unforeseen setbacks. It is morally certain that next account will see us in a position to commence regular dividends, which, I trust, henceforth may be maintained. I shall be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN then proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. RAYMOND seconded, and this was unanimously agreed to.

On the proposition of Mr. MARTIN, seconded by Mr. HOLT, Mr. G. C. Moxon was re-elected a Director.

Mr. H. J. Gedge was also re-elected a Director, on the proposition of Mr. RAYMOND, seconded by Mr. MAURICIO.

Messrs. Smith, Seth & Fleming were re-appointed Auditors to the Company at a remuneration of \$450 per annum.

COMPANY REPORT.

THE "STAR" FERRY CO., LTD.

The report for the year ended 30th April, 1917, for presentation to shareholders at the nineteenth ordinary annual meeting of the Company, to be held on the 30th inst., states:—

ACCOUNTS.

The net earnings of the boats, after paying all working expenses, amounted to \$117,699.52, against \$88,942.58 the previous year.

The amount at credit of profit and loss account (after paying for repairs, allowing for Directors' and Auditors' fees) placing \$4,300 to credit of Accrual Fund, and contributing \$1,000 to War Charities, including \$2,515.95 brought forward, is \$105,985.79, which, with the approval of shareholders it is proposed to appropriate as follows:—

To pay a dividend of \$1.80 per share from working profits.....\$ 73,000.00
To pay a bonus of 30 cents per share from interest a/c.....12,000.00
To write off Ice House Street Pier.....5,000.00
To write off boats.....10,000.00
To carry forward.....6,985.79
\$105,985.79

DIRECTORS.

Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton and Mr. C. S. Gubbay have joined the board in place of Hon. Mr. David Landale and Hon. Mr. E. Shellim, resigned.

In accordance with the Articles of Association Hon. Sir C. E. Chater, K.C.M.G., retires, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

PRUSSIA AND RUSSIA.
MILITARISM FOR "STARVING MOBS."

There is at present no more interesting German newspaper than the *Kreuz Zeitung*, the chief organ of Prussian militarism. Day after day the *Kreuz Zeitung* publishes the policy of the United States, and such incidents as the "sacrifice" of the late French Minister of War to Parliament provide it with texts for expositions of the purest Conservative doctrine.

Dealing, for instance, with the Russian Revolution, the *Kreuz Zeitung* says:— "Order and unity, guaranteed by a firmly anchored Monarchy, which has not yet been democratized, and which by strength of will masters all antagonisms, are the chief foundations and main sources of military and economic strength in war. That belligerent who has these two things always at his disposal, retains a secure superiority over enemies among whom these things are threatened or even collapse."

In the midst of a period of war which has already lasted a long time and presses hard upon the broad masses of the people—and especially when the war is reaching the final decisions—the lack of an industry, putatively secured Government, an industry, which has a checking and paralysing effect upon the war-will, in face of the dangers which threaten from starving and excited mobs. Warlike efficiency cannot be associated with lack of order and lack of unity. The revolutionary events in Russia give a picture of the lengths to which democratic tendencies can go—tendencies which, according to their admirers in Germany, must be resisted by any firm dam. But what can be broken and so democratic waves, irresistible though they pretend to be. Where the will is lacking for this, even the most powerful Monarchy must gradually be undermined. The safety of the German future will continue to depend not least upon such a Monarchy as the strong-willed centre of order and unity.

In another leading article the *Kreuz Zeitung* writes:— "One of the fundamental characteristics of the world-war is what is formulated as the opposition between Parliament and Kaiser Army. The German Empire and the Monarchies that are allied with it can to-day be confident that their Kaiser Armies will hold the field against the Parliament Armies. The antagonism between the military authority, which demands the domination that is absolutely necessary for the control of armies, and a Parliament which is jealous of its control, threatens to interfere with and to weaken the unity of power and of leadership in war. On the other hand, such dangers are out of the question when the civil and military authority are absolutely united in the personality of Monarch who is protected from Parliamentary interference by the autocracy which is guaranteed to him by the Constitution."

We can only welcome the fact that now, immediately before the final decision of the war, Russia is imperilled by cause the war-power, which hitherto was subject entirely to the absolute authority of the Kaiser, is put under the Duma and the Revolutionary parties. The necessary unity in the organism of the whole military forces is most securely guaranteed by the sovereign will of a Monarch—in Germany by an Emperor who is independent of the will of Parliament. Thirty years ago Bismarck powerfully resisted a Reichstag majority when it attempted, fleetingly as he did to the defeat of all attempts by a Parliamentary Army. It is to be hoped that Bismarck's successors will at all times see in Bismarck's words, "to turn the Imperial Army into a Parliamentary democracy to diminish the perfect power of the Emperor and War Lord."

LORD ROBERT CECIL'S SPEECH.

The *Colony Gazette*, referring to Lord Robert Cecil's statement in the House of Commons that the consequences of the blockade will be plainly seen when it comes to the last battles of the war, says:—

As to this the Englishman is quite right. The ruthless war of starvation which England is carrying on against our defenceless civil population is stealing our fighters on the front and at sea as nothing else does to go on fighting until the mortal blow has been struck at our most pitiless enemy.

The Berlin *Volksbeobachter* discovers in Lord Robert Cecil's speech the "noteworthy admission that nothing but the consideration that the policy would have no practical consequences is preventing England from sweeping away 'what remains of the rules of international law.' The writer continues:—

"For the rest, Lord Cecil is somewhat wrongly informed about our food difficulties. Our situation might be much worse than it is without that preventing us from holding out until the final victory. But we know very well who it is whom we owe the present restrictions, and we will not forget how busily England strove to sacrifice our old men, and children to death by starvation."

Now what did Germany do to Paris in 1870?

FAR EASTERN MEN AND THE WAR.

Mr. John D. M. Pringle, on the Shanghai staff of Messrs. Dowdell & Co., has left for service connected with the war.

KOBE HARBOUR WORKS.

The construction of the Kobe harbour-works (says the *Japan Chronicle*) is progressing apace, thanks to the popular clamour for the speedy completion of this important public enterprise, but the work of effecting a satisfactory connection between the sea and land communications still remains neglected. Although there are four piers, Kyomachi is at present the only road that leads to a pier. No. 4 pier. There are no roads leading to the three other piers. In view of this the Kobe municipal authorities are contemplating the building of two roads so that as the piers may be brought into close connection with traffic into the city.

SUBMARINE PIRACY AND ITS RESULTS.

GERMAN LOSSES CONCEALED.

[BY ARCHIBALD HURD.]

Admiral von Capelle, the German Naval Secretary, who has been addressing the Reichstag on the progress of submarine piracy, might in other circumstances enlist a large measure of sympathy. The officers of the German Navy have become the puppets of policy by Hindenburg, the dictator of policy by sea as well as by land. When the ruthless U-boat war was resumed, the pledge to the United States becoming another "scrap of paper": the agents of the Marshal, issued the notorious "confidential" circular to the Press, which was published on March 23rd. It was stated that this campaign of murder and butchery against belligerents and neutrals constituted "the best and only means of a speedy, victorious ending of the war." It was not the naval but the military authorities who made that significant confession of the failure of the German army. The responsibility of bringing about an early German peace was thus placed on Admiral von Capelle, and those working under his orders, sending forth submarine crews either to dishonour or death.

All the newspapers have been singing in one key for two months, long, weary months to the Germans; the population, enduring great privations, was led to expect lightning results—no less than the "speedy" downfall of England, the breaking away of the Allies, the withdrawal of the Armies which encircle the Central Powers, the triumph of Prussianism, and the payment of indemnities sufficient to recoup all the financial and moral loss which the struggle has entailed on the German Empire. That is no exaggeration. What has happened is that week after week has passed, hope has been deferred again and again, protests have been made by neutrals, and the United States and China have turned the German Ambassadors out of their capitals. At last, it was laid as a duty on the Naval Secretary to justify anticipations of speedy victory, set forth in the confidential circular, and revive the flagging spirits of these much-besieged people.

THE NAVAL SECRETARY'S MISTAKE.

Admiral von Capelle is not an experienced speaker like his predecessor; he is, on the contrary, comparatively new to office and unused to handling facts. Lawyers state that there are no witnesses in the law courts so dangerous as the over-willing friends of plaintiff or defendant, as the case may be. In their anxiety to do their best, they indulge in wild exaggerations which are more injurious in their effect on the jury than all the evidence given on the other side. The over-statements suggest consciousness of weakness and a desire to put the most favourable construction forward, even to the extent of perverting the truth. Now that is what this well-meaning, and no doubt highly patriotic, German sailor has done. We can picture him leaving the Marineamt, and saying to himself:—"I must play up to the Marshal; I must try to prove that the intensified submarine campaign, though it has made the United States and China our enemies, was well worth the political and economic and moral cost—that it has succeeded, and that we have lost few submarines."

Piracy, let it be recalled, was to stop all shipping entering or leaving British ports, not after several weeks or many months, but at once; the mere thunder of German threats was to produce a state of blockade. British seamen were to mutiny; neutral sailors were more or less to refuse to enter the "war zone." The operations, opposed to law and humanity, opened at the beginning of February. Have the British Isles been isolated? The Admiralty have published weekly returns—a sort of thermometer of piracy—which have contained remarkable figures. The Germans, on their own admission, have stuck at no inhumanity to effect their purpose; men have been assassinated; women have been cast adrift on the high seas with scanty food, and in some cases wearing only their night attire, to exist in torture and exhaustion for two, three, and even four days! That on the one hand, on the other, in spite of all that has been threatened and all that has been enacted of revolting horror, British ports have been visited by nearly 40,000 ships of all nationalities, excluding vessels of 100 tons net or under, and excluding also fishing and local craft. That constitutes a fine record to the credit of British seamen, but of those of other nationalities, Americans have successfully run the "blockade"; other sailors of neutral States have treated the Germans with contempt. Yet Admiral von Capelle is reported to have led the Reichstag and all concerned to believe "all expectations had been realised up to now in the fullest degree."

WHAT A POLICY OF SECRECY?

The naval authorities of the Allied countries have made no secret of the exact number of vessels lost from week to week. What has been the price to Germany in submarine warfare? Admiral von Capelle professed to be candid as to the men-of-war sunk in the Battle of Jutland, and protested that he had nothing to conceal. He published a list, so very circumstantial that everyone assumed that it was only a partial revelation of the truth. But when it comes to the number of the submarines—which Germany will never see again—the figures only in general statements. He does not dare specify how many have been lost, and how many have returned. He does not know what merchantmen they had destroyed before they were called to account. And yet he professes to give exact figures of the aggregate tonnage sunk in February. The statistics are— "put the matter baldly"—faked. He is not even aware from week to week how many U-boats are operating. He waits, day by day looking for missing craft to turn up, he can never have the heart to balance the piracy account—but hopes, and hopes, and hopes. He does not know the number of submarines sent to the front during the months of February and March has by far exceeded the losses. If that assertion be true, it would be a distressing confession to come from Berlin. For the Germans held back a large number of submarines as a reserve when the campaign was initiated. They

(Continued at foot of next column.)

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

POLICE SCHOOL, 5.45 P.M.

Friday, May 25th—Class 15. (Chief Inspector Kerr).

Tuesday, May 29th—Class 13. (Inspector Gordon).

Wednesday, May 30th—Class 12. (Inspector Grant).

Thursday, May 31st—Class 15. (Chief Inspector Kerr).

Friday, June 1st—Class 14th. (Inspector Gerrard).

The result of the Examination of Classes 9, 10, and 11, held on May 11th, is posted at Headquarters' Club.

PARADES, 5.45 P.M.

Tuesday, May 29th—Ambulance Platoon. Also Recruits of all Companies under Co. Sgt. Majors.

Wednesday, May 30th—No. 2 Company under own Commander.

Thursday, May 31st—No. 3 Company under own Commander. No. 2 Section at Water Police Station. Ambulance Platoon at Tung Wah Hospital at 6 p.m.

Friday, June 1st—No. 1 Section and No. 1 Platoon at Central. Also Recruits of all Companies for passing out by A.S.P. (R).

STRENGTH.

P.c. 762 Backhouse and P.c. 176 Chan Ming are invalided out.

(Sd.) F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (R.)

23rd May, 1917.

HONGKONG NO. 1 V.A.D.

COMMANDANT—LADY MAY.

ACTING COMMANDANT—MRS. HICKLING.

L.R.C.F. AND S.

1. The Monthly Meeting will take place at the Military Hospital, Bowen Road, on Friday, the 25th inst., at 10.15 a.m., when a lecture will be given by Mrs. Bullock, and the drill will be in charge of Mrs. McGregor, M.B., B.Ch.

2. Dr. Johnson, P.C.M.O., has agreed to give a series of lectures in First Aid at the Victoria Hospital, Barker Road. Particulars may be had from the Adjutant and Hon. Secretary.

The following members may attend in order to pass the Examination qualifying them for the Bar to Medallion:—Mrs. Danby, Miss L. Ellis, Miss G. Ellis, Miss P. Lammert, Mrs. Shenton, Mrs. Balphs, Mrs. Robertson, Miss Wilkinson.

The following members may qualify for the Medallion:—Mrs. Armstrong, Miss Carter, Miss Davidson, Miss Denison, Miss A. Gordon, Miss M. Gordon, Mrs. Lander, Mrs. Manning, Miss Woodcock.

The following members should attend these lectures in order to pass the examination to become qualified members of the Detachment:—Mrs. Alabaster, Miss Hastings, Mrs. Hayward, Miss D. Ritchie, Mrs. Leask.

(Sd.) M. RALPHS

(Adjutant and Hon. Secretary).
23rd May, 1917.

A MONSTER OF THE DEEP.

Close to the shore in the sea-side village of Chihama, Ogasa-gori, Shidzuoka prefecture, the other day, some fishermen, while engaged in their work, discovered, to their great surprise, a huge monster-like creature appearing above the waves. Its head, it is stated, bore resemblance to that of a toad, and the fishermen at last caught it alive. The monstrous creature is reported to be 15 feet long, 12 feet wide and weighed about 250 kan, but is such a peculiar fish that it cannot be identified. *Japan Daily Mail*.

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did not determine on flouting the United States and other neutrals until—in their own phrase—"all the factors had been carefully weighed, after conscientious technical naval preparation." That "confidential" declaration throws some light on the Naval Secretary's later assertion. But the final point is a simple one; Germany published, as she claimed, a complete list of the losses suffered at the Battle of Jutland, so why, when she is engaged in an operation far more important to her, does she conceal the number of missing submarines?

THOSE "LITTLE BOATS."

Admiral von Capelle, struggling against adversity, and aware of the contempt in which the new methods of sea warfare have brought the service to which he belongs, has endeavoured to cheer his fellow-countrymen, and mislead and terrify neutrals. What would the world have thought had he mentioned the number of submarines which have been lost in a matter of only two months, stated the casualties? There is still a tendency to speak of the German submarines as "boats," and sometimes they are referred to as "little boats." In fact, the bigger of them are as big as the men-of-war which the Germans themselves have been in the habit of describing as "crusiers." Their displacement ranges from over 800 to 1,200 tons, the only one on construction runs from 220,000 to 240,000; the crew of each vessel numbers thirty men upwards. Submarines, in proportion to their size, are the most expensive ships ever built, and consequently these losses are imposing a heavy drain on German finances, material resources, skilled labour, and man power.

If salvation is to come for Germany in time to rescue her from doom, it must come soon, and, as is confessed, the submarine piracy is "the only means." So the Naval Secretary has been put up by the soldier to make a further effort to represent the piracy campaign on the 40,000,000 tons of shipping of the Allies and neutrals as a success, which has realised "all expectations." In contrast with the total tonnage quoted above, he gives an inflated figure for the February deprivations; and he conceals the number of submarines which have gone down—return—*Daily Telegraph*.

LIFE ON THE OCEAN WAVE. **JUDGMENT IN THE "PHEUM-PENH" CASE.**

The judgment of the Hongkong Marine Court was delivered yesterday in the enquiry into certain charges against a Chief Engineer, Capt. R. H. de la Sala, of the s.s. *Pheumph*, charged the Chief Engineer of the vessel, W. J. Stokes, with disobedience and misconduct.

The Court was composed of Commander Beckwith (President), Lieut. Commander F. E. Nuttall (H.M.S. *Tamar*), Capt. Bell Smith (s.s. *Honam*), Capt. P. H. Rolfe (Marine Superintendent Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.), and Mr. D. McMurray (Superintending Engineer of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.).

The judgment was as follows:—

"In this case a number of charges have been brought by the Master against the Chief Engineer, extending over a period of two months. Certain of these charges are of a trifling nature and in the opinion of this Court should never have been formulated. We therefore propose to deal only with the principal charges as follows:—On March the 6th when at Cape St. James the Master states that the Chief Engineer came on the Bridge and spoke to him in a disrespectful and insolent way, addressing him before the 2nd Mate, Pilot and Quarter Master as 'Mr. Man,' and questioning his right to delay the ship for 1 hour, and finally ended up by saying 'Not guilty this time, don't do it again.' There is a conflict of evidence here. The Chief Engineer admits addressing the Master as 'Mr. Man,' but says it was in the privacy of the Chart House, and it was only in jest. The Court consider that this manner of addressing the Master officially is contrary to all good discipline, but as this form of address seems to have been the common practice of the Chief Engineer for a considerable time, we are of opinion that the Master should have taken proper steps early in his command of this ship to have stopped this objectionable familiarity.

Again on the 28th March the Chief Officer was logged for being drunk and the Chief Engineer when asked by the Master refused to sign the Log. The Court are of opinion that under the circumstances then ruling on board it was clearly the Chief Engineer's duty to sign the Official Log and assist the Master to keep discipline in the ship. On March 29th the Chief Engineer is charged whilst at Saigon with having interfered with the loading of the ship. There is no evidence to prove that this was so, and is denied by Mr. Stokes, but it is proved that the Chief Engineer did threaten to leave the ship with all his engineers if any more cargo was put on board, and it is also proved by a document signed by the Chief Engineer that the ship was not over-loaded at this time. So that we consider this was an act of misconduct on the part of Mr. Stokes. April 9th, 10th, and 11th. The Master states in his evidence that he gave the Chief Engineer orders on the 9th of April for certain reasons not to make any test with the drinking water publicly. Here there is a conflict of evidence. Mr. Stokes states that no such orders were ever given to him, and that he had no idea there was any trouble connected with the drinking water until the 11th of April, when he was heavily logged. No evidence has been produced to prove that such order was ever given to the Chief Engineer, and as most of the Master's orders to the Engine Room appear to have been given in writing this is particularly noticeable. Also Dr. Arculli in his evidence states that during the three days, i.e., 9th, 10th and 11th April the Chief Engineer brought samples of drinking water to the Master (daily) for inspection. The relationship existing between the Master and Chief Engineer (during this period) appeared to be quite friendly.

After going very carefully into all the evidence given to the Court we are of opinion that the Chief Engineer was responsible for the drinking water being delivered clean to the Emigrants, and to do this it was necessary for him to pump through the General Service pipes until the water ran clean, and that it would be necessary to test and taste this water from time to time until the results were satisfactory. In doing this it appears to the Court that the Chief Engineer chose the most convenient and private place for this work, i.e., Cock C. And that as there had been no trouble heretofore during the voyage with the Emigrants over the water, and that as water is being constantly pumped during the day through the General Service pipes, (Continued on next column.)

THE SERVICES' ENTERTAINMENT FUND.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW APPRECIATION OF OUR GALLANT DEFENDERS.

It is not a Charity; it is a Fund whereby the residents of Hongkong may entertain the men of the Navy and Army during their stay in the Colony, such as is extended to sailors and soldiers everywhere else.

The majority of these men, at the call of duty, have left well-paid billets at home, to say nothing of wife and family, and have done their bit in the firing-line. Many of them have received wounds and distinctions in the various battles, including Mons, Hill 60, Loos, the Dardanelles, and the Naval fight off Jutland. They include men who have won immortal renown for the British race by their attitude in the face of death on board the *Tyndareus*.

It is providing the means of relieving the monotony of life on board ship and in barracks by running many Teas and Concerts in different parts of the Garrison. Without it, these entertainments could not have been held without expense to the men themselves, who are receiving very little pay each week owing to the high rate of the official dollar.

It is providing refreshments for two weekly outings for small parties of men from Mt. Austin and one from Victoria; refreshments and "smokes" at a weekly concert; and writing materials at Mt. Austin. A similar scheme is being organized for the men in the lower barracks.

It is desired to bring under its benefits the large number of men in the outlying forts, as well as the other men stationed in Victoria and the Navy.

Requests for help are continually being received—a fact which shows that the Fund is meeting a need.

HOW CAN ALL THIS BE ACCOMPLISHED?

Only through the generosity of the Hongkong public, a quality in which hitherto it has never been found wanting. Unless the Fund is continually replenished the original sum most kindly provided through the Bandman Opera Company will very shortly be expended.

WHAT IS WANTED?

1. Monthly subscriptions to be continued as long as the need lasts.
2. Donations.

A GUARANTEE.

In the administration of the Fund no waste of any kind occurs; every man has his share, every dollar subscribed has its full value and is spent solely upon the men. No money is used for the purchase of alcoholic drinks.

WHERE TO SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTION.

To any of the following:—
Secretary, Hongkong Club.
Secretary, Peak Club.
Messrs. Moutrie & Co.
Editor, *Hongkong Daily Press*.

General Secretary "Services' Entertainment Fund": Rev. T. Robinson, 2, Morrison Hill.

Naval Secretary "Services' Entertainment Fund": Rev. Hastings, R.N., H.M.S. *Tamar*.

Military Secretary and Treasurer, "Services' Entertainment Fund": Rev. C. L. Cooper-Hunt, C.F., 7, Queen's Gardens.

It is hardly necessary to add how highly any help given will be appreciated by all concerned.

For various reasons on a ship, it seems difficult to understand why this particular water being pumped or tasted should interest the Emigrants, or alarm them in any way. Taking all these points into consideration and the absence of evidence that any proper order was given to the Chief Engineer which we think should have been given in writing, or before a witness, if this testing was considered to be dangerous, we are of opinion that the Chief Engineer on these occasions carried out his duty in a proper way and to the best of his ability.

In summing up this case generally, although the most serious charges have not been proved, we are strongly of opinion that the Chief Engineer, Mr. Stokes, consistently adopted an attitude of disrespect towards the Master of the ship Mr. De La Sala, and we consider that such acts of misconduct which have been proved, although they do not amount in our opinion to gross misconduct were detrimental to all good discipline and order on board and merits severe censure. And taking into consideration Mr. Stokes' long and we believe good service with Company, and also the fact that he has already been discharged from this Company after 13 years' service, we consider this to be sufficient punishment.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB. **ANNUAL MEETING.**

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Royal Hongkong Golf Club at Happy Valley yesterday, Mr. S. H. Dodwell (Captain) presiding.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen.—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time I propose with your permission to take them as read. I think you will agree with me that, considering the circumstances, the report is a satisfactory one. The profit for the year amounts to \$4,271.29 against a loss of \$2,541.71 last year, after writing off Fan Ling course and property \$2,257.37 for account of the year 1916. In the sum of \$13,338.06 for Fan Ling maintenance many items appear which in previous years have been treated as capital expenditure. The reserve account, which last year stood at \$29,761.30, you will observe, has been utilized in writing down the Fan Ling property, plant, etc., nothing having been previously written off for depreciation since the course was laid out and the buildings erected.

With regard to the item Gun Club suspense account, I would explain that the Committee took over the Gun Club, lock, stock and barrel, including the Club House and cash balance, the latter being more than sufficient to pay for the removal of the Club house from Hongkong and its erection at Fan Ling. When it was first put up, I regret to say, it presented a serious blot on the landscape, which fortunately for us caught the eye of His Excellency the Governor, with the result that he very kindly defrayed the cost of beautifying it. (Applause.) The upkeep and running expenses will cost the club a very small sum per annum, and when a normal supply of cartridges is obtainable I hope, gentlemen, you will patronize this new attraction.

The sincere thanks of the Club are further due to His Excellency the Governor and Mr. T. S. Forrest, who presented us with the handsome half-way pavilion, which was opened during the year and is a great improvement on the old shed we used to quench our thirst in. (Applause.)

The Committee are of opinion that the present caddy system at Fan Ling, including the practice of stationing forecaddies round the course on busy days, although it created a little confusion at first, is a distinct improvement on the old methods, and I trust their opinion is shared by you all.

The alterations to the Club House at Deepwater Bay, I regret to say, have been somewhat protracted owing to circumstances over which we had no control, but they are now nearing completion and should greatly enhance the popularity of our picnic course.

I should like to express the thanks of the club to Mr. C. A. Peel and Mr. W. D. Kraft, who acted as Honorary Secretaries during the temporary absence of Mr. Cumming. The Secretaryship of this club, gentlemen, is no bed of roses, as Mr. Cumming will tell you. During the regime of Mr. Kraft the Ladies dissociated themselves from us, I am certain they would not have taken this step had they known that Mr. Cumming was returning. (Laughter.) They now have their own Captain and Committee, and although their powers are necessarily limited with the exception of the fixing of their own handicaps, I understand, that perfect harmony prevails. (Laughter and applause.) With those few remarks, gentlemen, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts as presented.

Mr. E. V. D. Parr seconded. Carried. On the motion of Mr. Parr, seconded by Mr. E. J. Grist, Mr. Dodwell was re-elected Captain.

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. E. Matland, Mr. K. M. Cumming was re-elected Hon. Secretary. The following Committee was then elected:—Mr. E. J. Grist, Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Messrs. W. D. Kraft, F. H. Thomas, E. V. D. Parr, and A. Ritchie, the three first named having been members of last year's Committee.

On the proposal of Mr. Kraft, seconded by the Chairman, the Hon. Mr. E. R. Hallifax was elected a life member of the Club in recognition of his services to the Club, more particularly in connection with the laying out and improvement of the course at Fan Ling.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Dodwell, last year's Captain, was proposed by Mr. Matland and heartily accorded.

ALLEGED MURDER AT YAUMATI.

At the Hongkong Magistracy yesterday a Chinese was charged with the murder of another Chinese, who was master of a salt shop at 185, Reclamation Street, Yaumati. The deceased man was found at 95, Reclamation Street, with numerous stab wounds in the body. He was conveyed to the Kwong Wah Hospital, but succumbed to his injuries.

No evidence was taken, and the accused was formally remanded in custody.

SPORT.

HONGKONG RIFLE LEAGUE CHAMPION.

In connection with the Hongkong Rifle League, Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co. kindly presented a trophy for the marksman who made the biggest aggregate score during the season, the best five scores in matches to count. The season being concluded, the winner has now been discovered, and it is Pte. A. Jenkins, of the Hongkong Volunteer Reserves, who came out with the splendid average of 99.50, the possible average being 105. Pte. Jenkins' best five scores were: 99, 97, 97, 101 and 91, the total being 485. The first five runners-up were as follows: Pte. McLennan, Reserve: total 475, average 95. Q.M.S. Black, R.E.: total 466.25, average 93.25. C.P.O. Cree, *Typhoon*: total 458.92, average 91.78. Mr. Goodman, Dockyard: total 453, average 90.60, and Mr. A. Brock, Dockyard: total 452, average 90.40.

In connection with C.P.O. Cree's total, it should be mentioned that he scored 448 with open sight.

Pte. Jenkins is to be complimented on his remarkably good shooting. His "bad" day, when he scored 91, was, peculiar to relate, a good day for other marksmen. Had he maintained his average on this day his total score, and average, would have been even more remarkable.

HONGKONG TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

FINAL OF THE MIXED DOUBLES.

There was a large crowd present around War Charities Court last evening to witness the final of the Mixed Doubles in connection with the Hongkong Tennis Tournament; but the game was soon over and was not extremely interesting to watch. The finalists were Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet (owe 30), and Mrs. Armstrong and the Rev. C. L. Cooper Hunt, who also owed 30. The latter pair put up a very good fight, but they were never the equal of Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet, and Cooper Hunt was often out of position. As a consequence, and good as Mrs. Armstrong played, the match was always in favour of Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet, whose understanding was rarely at fault, and then not in a glaring manner. The contest resulted in an easy win for Mr. and Mrs. Nisbet, 6-4, 9-3.

CRICKET.

"C" CO. MIDDLESEX REGT. v. R.A.M.C.

These teams met in a friendly match yesterday, at the Happy Valley, and thanks, mainly, to a well played 31 by Lieut. Cooper, the Middlesex gained a fairly easy victory. The R.A.M.C. being a very small unit, were obliged to obtain a little outside help to make up a team. Corpl. McKechnie, winning the toss, put his opponents in to bat. With the score at 101 for seven wickets the Middlesex declared. With the R.A.M.C. score at 32 for four wickets, the game looked a fairly easy thing for their opponents, but Davis and Ellarby by careful cricket put a different complexion on the game and dashed that a draw would be the result. Davis succumbed to a tempting ball from Fawcett, however, and after that the bowlers met with very little opposition. The R.A.M.C. were a man short but as it was, there was only five minutes left when the last batsman went in. He was, however, neatly stumped by Captain Padfield, the "C" Company thus gaining a victory on the stroke of time. Scores:—

"C" COMPANY.			
Pte. Butterworth, c McKenzie,	b Ellarby	10	
Pte. Prince, b Ellarby	9		
Pte. Taylor, b Ellarby	18		
Lieut. Cooper, lb.w., b Lawrence	31		
Lieut. Dickenson, b Ellarby	6		
Capt. Padfield, b Lawrence	17		
Pte. Fawcett, b Ellarby	5		
Pte. Moran, lb.w., c Back, Corpl. Moral and cte. Westcott, did not bat			
Extras	5		
Total	101		

Innings declared closed.			
Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
L/Cpl. Ellarby	15	3	41
Cpl. McKechnie	3	0	13
L/Cpl. Lawrence	4	0	14
Sgt. Waller	3	0	14
Sgt. Gilchrist	4	1	13

R.A.M.C.			
Spr. Waller, lb.w., b Cooper	11		
L/Cpl. Lawrence, y.b.w., b Cooper	10		
Corpl. Brown, b Cooper	1		
Corpl. McKechnie, run out	1		
L/Cpl. Ellarby, b Fawcett	12		
Sergeant Davis, b Fawcett	20		
L/Cpl. McKechnie, b Fawcett	8		
Sgt. Gilchrist, c and b Fawcett	0		
L/Cpl. Kirby, not out	0		
Pte. Goodwin, Std. Padfield, b Taylor	0		
Pte. Morley, did not bat	0		
Extras	7		
Total	69		

INTIMATIONS

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GENTLEMEN'S ENGLISH MADE

WHITE CANVAS BOOTS and SHOES

\$7.50

PER PAIR



\$7.50

PER PAIR

WE STOCK THESE IN ALL SIZES INCLUDING THE EXTRA WIDE FITTINGS, AS ILLUSTRATED ALSO OTHER SHAPES WITH AND WITHOUT TOECAPS.

ALL WEIGHTS IN ENGLISH AND AMERICAN BOOTS AND SHOES. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

ISHERWOOD CIGARETTES.

HAND-MADE IN CAIRO.

No. 3, Large ...

\$4.50 per 100

or 2.30 .. 50

No. 4, Medium ...

\$3.60 per 100

or 1.85 .. 50

No. 5, Small ...

\$3.20 per 100

or 1.65 .. 50

Ask your

tobacconist

for a tin

at once.



Known all over

the world as the

most popular

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Cigarettes

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An absolutely

first quality

Cigarette.

Recommended

by all

connoisseurs.

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ANGLO-EGYPTIAN TOBACCO STORE.

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A. B. WATSON & CO.

HONGKONG HOTEL KIOSK

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SUMMER UNDERWEAR.

We have now a large assortment

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"FLEXINET"



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"INDIAN GAUZE" "B.V.D."

INSPECTION INVITED.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

MADAME FLINT left for Paris yesterday, and will return to Hongkong the end of September, with a Choice Assortment of Evening and Day Gowns, Costumes, etc. Any ORDERS intended to have been placed with her before her departure can be forwarded to and receive her personal supervision. [685]

HONGKONG GYMKHANA CLUB.

THE SECOND GYMKHANA MEETING of the Season will be held at **HAPPY VALLEY**, on **SATURDAY**, the 26th May, 1917, commencing at 3.30 P.M. The Charge of Admission will be \$1 for others than Members of the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB or GYMKHANA CLUB. Soldiers and Sailors in uniform free. The Committee invite the Ladies of Hongkong to be present. [690]

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

FOR THE WHITSUNTIME HOLIDAYS the following Competitions have been arranged:—

FOR MEN:

RUNNING POOL—SATURDAY to MONDAY. 18 Holes Big Course. Entrance Fee \$1.00 per card.

FOR LADIES:

RUNNING POOL—SATURDAY to MONDAY. 18 Holes Relief Course. Entrance Fee \$1.00 per card.

MIXED FOURSOMES:

RUNNING POOL—SATURDAY to MONDAY. 18 Holes Relief Course. Entrance Fee \$1.00 per card.

WHIT MONDAY:

18 Holes Big Course. Entrance Fee \$2.00 per couple.

There will be a First and a Second Prize and a Small Scratch Prize. 25% of all Entrance Fees to go to a War Charity.

K. M. CUMMING, Hon. Secretary. [691]

G. R.

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE current in SHANGHAI, up to and for the sum of \$100,000, current in Shanghai, will be received by the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, until 11.30 A.M. on the 24th May, 1917. The amount accepted is to be placed by the tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Shanghai, so as to be available on the 26th May, 1917. Persons tendering to state alternatively (a) The amount of Hongkong currency payable in Hongkong on 24th May, required for each \$1,000—Shanghai currency and/or (b) The amount of Dollars current in Shanghai for \$100 for telegraphic transfer on the London Commission of H.M. Treasury, London. The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC." The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved. Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application. Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III., Cap. 45 and 41, George III., Cap. 62, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills). The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by an incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company. Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt.-Colonel, Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D., His Majesty's Treasury Office, Hongkong, 24th May, 1917. [691]

G. R.

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE current in Tientsin, up to and for the sum of \$150,000, current in Tientsin, will be received by the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, until 11.30 A.M. on 26th May, 1917. The amount accepted is to be placed by the tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Tientsin, so as to be available on the 28th May, 1917. Persons tendering to state alternatively (a) The amount of Hongkong currency payable in Hongkong on 26th May, 1917, required for each \$1,000—Tientsin currency and/or (b) The amount of Dollars current in Tientsin for \$100 for telegraphic transfer on the London Commission of H.M. Treasury, London. The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC." The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved. Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application. Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III., Cap. 45, and 41, George III., Cap. 62, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills). The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by an incorporated Company in its corporate capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company. Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the **TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT**, F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt.-Colonel, Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D., His Majesty's Treasury Office, Hongkong, 24th May, 1917. [692]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER. **ARCHIE WONGWAI**, expert mechanic from his factory, Dayton, Ohio, is now in charge of the Cash Register business in Southern China. **AMERICAN TRADING Co.**, General Agents. **HONGT-Z & Co., Ltd.**, Representatives, 11A, Des Vaux Road Central, Hongkong. [686]

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912 the **EXCHANGE BANKS** will be **CLOSED** for the transaction of Public Business on **MONDAY**, the 28th instant. Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917. [687]

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

EMPIRE DAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all **FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES** will be **CLOSED** for the transaction of **PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (THURSDAY)**, 24th May, at 1 o'clock P.M. By Order, **A. R. LOWE**, Secretary. [688]

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917.

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

EMPIRE DAY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all **MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES** will be **CLOSED** for the transaction of **PUBLIC BUSINESS TO-DAY (THURSDAY)**, 24th May, at 1 o'clock P.M. By Order, **A. R. LOWE**, Secretary. [689]

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917.

"EMPIRE DAY."

THE EXCHANGE BANKS will be **CLOSED** for the transaction of **EXCHANGE BUSINESS TO-DAY (THURSDAY)**, the 24th instant, at 1 P.M. Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917. [677]

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that the **HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE** will be **CLOSED TO-DAY (THURSDAY)**, 24th May, at 1 o'clock P.M., **EMPIRE DAY**. By Order of the Committee, **R. HANCOCK**, Secretary. [678]

Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917.

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

"EMPIRE DAY."

MEMBERS and SUBSCRIBERS are notified that the Club will be thrown open to their **Lady Friends TO-DAY (THURSDAY)**, **EMPIRE DAY**, from 11.30 A.M. to 4 P.M. Tiffin to which Ladies may be invited will be served at 1.15 P.M. A Band will be in attendance. Members and Subscribers may engage tables for tiffin after Noon on **MONDAY**, the 21st inst., at the Secretary's Office. By Order, **E. DES VŒUX**, Secretary. [685]

Hongkong, 19th May, 1917.

EMPIRE DAY.

24th May, 1917.

By special arrangement with the **Bandman Opera Co.** A **VAUDEVILLE MATINEE** Will be given at the Theatre Royal, City Hall. 4 P.M. to 6 P.M.

Booking plans will be opened in the Secretary's Office, Hongkong Club, at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 22nd May, where seats may be booked and tickets obtained. Price \$3 each. The Dress circle and the first three rows of the stalls will be reserved for Members of the Hongkong Club and their friends. Tickets for seats in the remaining portion of the Theatre will be distributed among the Navy and the Garrison. Hongkong, 21st May, 1917. [675]

RUSSIAN 5% INTERNAL LIBERTY LOAN 1917.

Subscription to the LIBERTY LOAN is **Opened at THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK**, Hongkong, from date to the 26th June, 1917. The price of issue is 85 per cent. The Loan is free of Income Tax and other taxes. The Loan is issued for 55 years and will be redeemable at par by yearly drawings beginning in December, 1922. The Loan may be repaid at par after the 29th March, 1917. Coupons are payable half-yearly on the 15th March and the 29th September. Interest on the loan runs from the 29th March, 1917—interest from that date to be added to the price of issue. Special favourable rates will be quoted for Russian Exchange. Applications will be wired to Petrograd free of telegraphic charges and Bonds will be forwarded free of postal expenses. The Bank is ready to give every facility to subscribers in the shape of advances against the Bonds. **G. TISDALL**, Manager. [693]

INTIMATIONS

TENNIS TOURNAMENT.

FIXTURES.

TO-DAY (THURSDAY), 24th MAY, **FINAL HANDICAP DOUBLES.** **COL. CRISP** and **F. A. REDMOND** v. **S. E. GREEN** and **A. ABRAHAM**. **TO-MORROW (FRIDAY)**, 25th MAY, **FINAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP.** **S. E. GREEN** and **REV. COOPER HUNT** v. **NG SEE KWONG** and **WONG PO KEUNG**. The Prizes will be presented by **MISS MAY** after this event. **P. M. HODGSON**, Hon. Secretary. [684]

PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **ORDINARY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS** of the **PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED**, will be held at the **HONGKONG HOTEL**, Hongkong, on **SATURDAY**, the 26th May, 1917, at 11.30 A.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1917. The **TRANSFERS BOOKS** of the Company will be **CLOSED** on the 22nd instant to the 28th instant, both days inclusive. **PEAK TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED**, **JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON**, General Managers. [683]

Hongkong, 15th May, 1917.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the Company (since its registration) will be held at the **HONGKONG HOTEL**, Hongkong, on **SATURDAY**, the 26th day of May, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers together with a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1916. The **REGISTER OF SHARES** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from **MONDAY**, 21st May, to **MONDAY**, 28th May, 1917, both days inclusive, during which period no Transfer of Shares can be Registered. **JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON**, General Managers. [684]

Hongkong, 12th May, 1917.

THE "STAR" FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED. **NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.** **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the **NINETEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING** of the Company will be held at the **Offices of Messrs. JAMES MATTHEWS & CO., LTD.**, on **WEDNESDAY**, the 30th May, 1917, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th April, 1917. The **REGISTER OF SHARES** of the Company will be **CLOSED** from **THURSDAY**, the 24th May, to **WEDNESDAY**, the 30th May, 1917, inclusive. By Order of the Board of Directors, **W. E. BROWN**, Secretary. [686]

Hongkong, 19th May, 1917.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members will be held on **TUESDAY**, 28th May, 1917, at 4 o'clock P.M. in the Chamber Room, **Chartered Bank Building**, 3, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, for the purpose of nominating Representatives of the Chamber on the Legislative Council during the absence on leave of the Honourable Mr. P. H. HOLYOAKE. Notice in writing of the names of Candidates and of their proposers and seconders to be lodged with the Secretary at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the General Meeting. By Order, **A. R. LOWE**, Acting Secretary. [682]

Hongkong, 19th May, 1917.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

NOTICE.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Members will be held on **TUESDAY**, 28th May, 1917, at 4 o'clock P.M. in the Chamber Room, **Chartered Bank Building**, 3, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, for the purpose of nominating Representatives of the Chamber on the Legislative Council during the absence on leave of the Honourable Mr. P. H. HOLYOAKE. Notice in writing of the names of Candidates and of their proposers and seconders to be lodged with the Secretary at least 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the General Meeting. By Order, **A. R. LOWE**, Acting Secretary. [682]

Hongkong, 19th May, 1917.

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the **HONGKONG CLUB** will be held in the Club on **WEDNESDAY**, the 30th May, 1917, at 5.15 P.M. **BUSINESS**—As set forth in the Notice posted in the Hall of the Club. By Order, **E. DES VŒUX**, Secretary. [679]

Hongkong, 22nd May, 1917.

NOTICE.

WE HAVE from the 1st day of May **OPENED** our **OFFICES** at **SHAMSHAN CANTON**, under the style of **HOGG & KARANJIA, LIMITED**, where we shall carry on business as Import and Export and General Merchants—Raw and Waste Silk and also Oriental Produce. **ARTHUR VIVIAN HOGG**, **NOSSERWAN ROMANJEE KARANJIA**. [683]

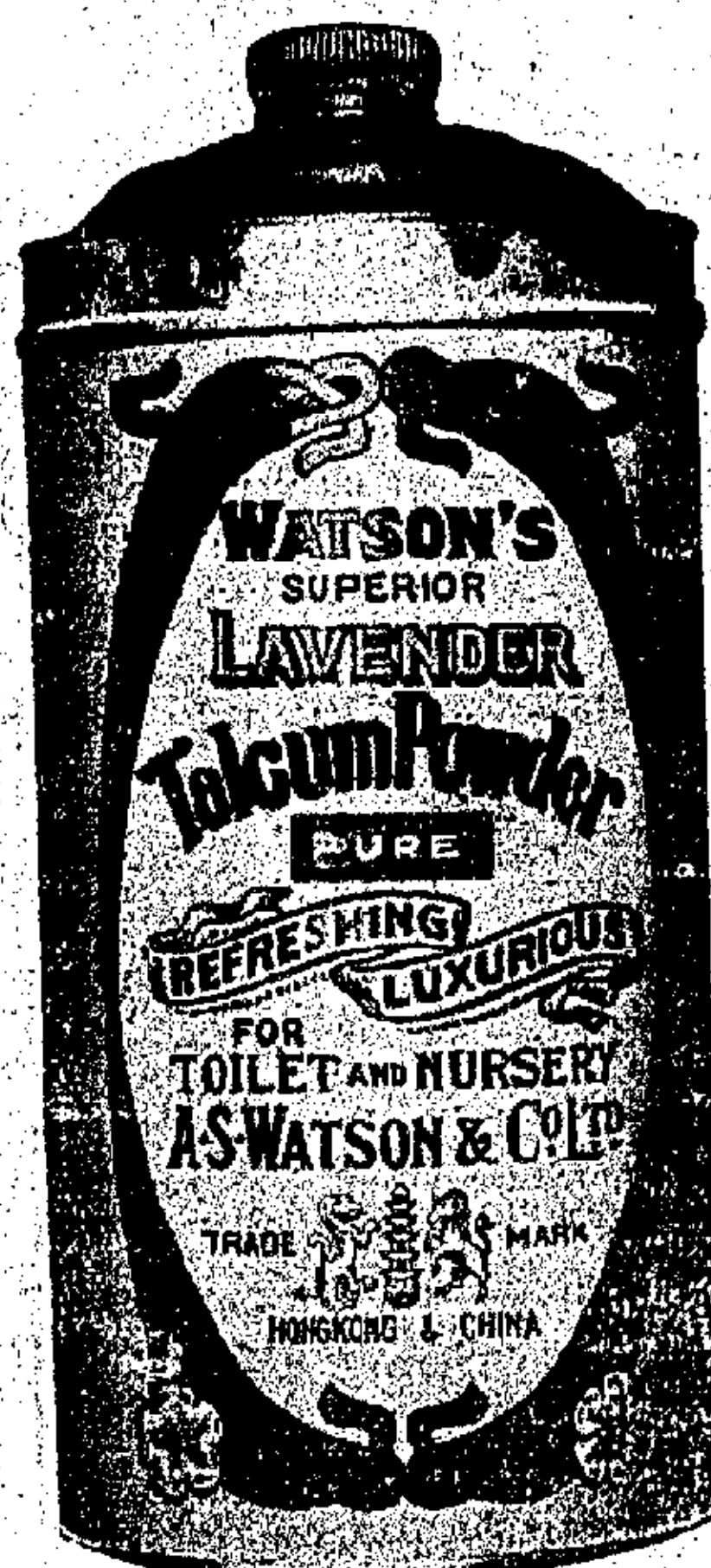
FOR SALE.

ONE 104 B.H.P. HORNSBY ACKROYD OIL ENGINE complete with and coupled direct to one 6 K.W. Continuous Current Shunt Wound Dynamo of 50/70 volts with shunt regulator. **ALSO ONE ACCUMULATOR DYNAMO, &c.** complete with instruments for 100 Amps. For further particulars apply to **LINSTEAD & DAVIS**, Alexandra Buildings. [681]

INTIMATION

GIANT LAVENDER TALCUM.

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It has real antiseptic properties and is wonderfully soothing to the skin.

1lb. Size for \$1.00.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD., HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

TELEPHONE 18.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 104, DES VŒUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 121, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG 24TH MAY, 1917.

EMPIRE DAY.

THANKS to private effort, **Empire Day** is, gradually meeting with wider recognition in this little Colony. Following the precedent set last year, the Police Reserve will again give an entertainment in the evening to men of the Sister Services. It will be preceded by an inter-service shooting competition at King's Park. The Hongkong Club, also, has arranged a special celebration for members, subscribers, and their lady friends. This will include a matinee by the Bandman Opera Company at the Theatre Royal, to which soldiers and sailors have been invited. In the Government schools the day will be observed as a holiday after children have attended the usual services at the Anglican and Roman Catholic Cathedrals. We cannot help thinking that in this direction something more ambitious might well have been attempted. Millions of children in all parts of the world will gather together to-day to pay their tribute of respect to the British flag, to learn what it symbolises, and to join heartily in singing the National Anthem. Why should something along these lines not be done in this little outpost of Empire? Happy Valley offers an ideal site for the purpose. It is, particularly to the rising generation, to whose hands the future of the Empire must in a few years be committed, that attention should be directed. We cannot expect to rear loyal citizens out of the heterogeneous elements forming our local population if we make no attempt to cultivate a sense of loyalty amongst them. A concerted effort ought to be made to help them to realise the privileges they enjoy as British subjects, and to teach them the real meaning of patriotism. The old *laissez faire* attitude which the British people were content to adopt in the past in regard to the

development of Imperial sentiment is, happily, fast giving way to more enlightened views of our duties and responsibilities. The Empire Day movement, which was started by the Earl of MEATH, has grown rapidly in favour, and it has received an enormous impetus from the war. The revolutions of the past three years have shown us clearly who are our enemies and who our friends, and have compelled a recognition of the fact that the old policy of treating all alike must be abandoned. The magnificent voluntary uprising of the whole Empire in the defence of justice and liberty has profoundly impressed even the least imaginative, and the "Little Englander" is now as extinct as the dodo. Prudence, no less than gratitude, demands that in the near future, steps shall be taken to consolidate the Empire by developing its enormous potentialities and by admitting its different members to partnership. It is only reasonable that the Overseas Britons who have so eagerly accepted their full share of responsibility in this great crisis and have made such tremendous sacrifices of life in the far-flung battle-line should henceforth be consulted in regard to matters of Imperial policy. One of the many results of the fact that the Empire has gradually come into existence rather as a matter of accident than as the result of any definite plan has been the anomaly that the self-governing Dominions have had no voice in the making of foreign treaties by which they are bound. On the other hand, they have been under no legal obligation to share the burden of Imperial defence. At the same time they have been free to make such fiscal arrangements as seemed best to each, and although, in many cases, they have given a preference to imports from the Mother Country, there has been nothing in the shape of reciprocity, and money from the United Kingdom has been contributed as freely to the development of foreign nations as to the development of the Colonies and Dependencies. These are matters which will undoubtedly engage the close attention of Imperial statesmen, and before they are all satisfactorily adjusted some years are likely to elapse. But, given the desire for closer union, we need not despair that means will be found to achieve it. By fostering that desire and by contributing to a better understanding of the problems that await solution the Empire Day movement is performing an invaluable work.

Lady May and Miss Dione May have left the Colony to spend the summer in Canada.

The second gymkhana meeting of the season will be held at Happy Valley on Saturday next.

The Exchange Banks will be closed for the transaction of public business on Monday, the 28th inst.

Mr. Andrew F. Brewer, student interpreter of the American Legation at Peking, has been appointed Vice-Consul to Amoy.

The competitions arranged by the Royal Hongkong Golf Club for the Whitsuntide holidays include running pools for men and for ladies and for mixed foursomes.

At the Hongkong Criminal Sessions yesterday, seven Chinese who were charged with robbery and assault at a village near Castle Peak Bay were each sentenced by the Chief Justice to seven years' hard labour and 14 strokes with the "cat."

Mr. and Mrs. A. Chapman were among the passengers who departed from the Colony yesterday. Mrs. Chapman has been ill for some time past and it is sincerely hoped that the change of climate will result in her complete restoration to health.

A Chinese married woman of 194, Des Vœux Road has reported to the police that on the 22nd instant she entrusted her accountant with a deposit receipt for \$5,000 on the Tai Yan Bank, instructing him to draw the money. The money has been drawn from the bank, but the accountant has not been seen since.

The following forthcoming marriages are announced:—Mr. Frederick William McKerns, Carlton Hotel, and Miss Daisy Peel, en route to Hongkong from Vancouver; Mr. Karl Oscar Hellberg, Chinese revenue cruiser *Kapkan*, and Miss Elizabeth Kathleen Julia Clarke, 13, Macdonnell Road, Hongkong.

We sincerely regret to learn that **Lieut. Gordon Chamberlain Faithfull**, of the Canadian Expeditionary Force, only son of Mr. R. C. Faithfull of Hongkong, was killed in action last month in France. He was in his thirtieth year, and leaves a young widow and infant child in Ottawa, Canada, to mourn his loss.

A general meeting of the members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce will be held on Tuesday, the 29th inst., at 4 p.m. for the purpose of nominating a representative of the Chamber on the Legislative Council during the absence of the Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAKE. Nominations will be received up to 10 a.m. of the day of the meeting.

There was a large attendance at the Union Church, Kennedy Road, last evening when an organ recital was given by Mr. Denman Fuller, who tested the powers of the recently installed instrument to their utmost, with the most satisfactory results. The programme had been carefully chosen and each item was given in Mr. Fuller's customary masterful manner, the audience being thoroughly entertained. In view of the fact that the proceeds from the recital are to be given to the Scottish Women's Hospitals Fund, the large attendance was exceedingly gratifying.

To-day being Empire Day the Hongkong Club will be open to the lady friends of members and subscribers from 11.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The toast of "the King" will be proposed at 12 noon. Tiffin, to which ladies may be invited, will be served at 1.15 p.m. A band will be in attendance. Arrangements have been made with the Bandman Company to give a vaudeville matinee at the Theatre Royal from 4 to 6 p.m. The Chairman of the Phoenix Club will be "At Home" to members and friends from 11.30 to 12.30. The assemblage will drink the health of the King at noon prompt. The Exchange Banks, the Stock Exchange, and the Fire and Marine Insurance Offices will close at 1 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HONGKONG AEROPLANE FUND

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—The sum of \$6,500 has already been subscribed to the above fund, which has for its object the purchase of an aeroplane to be a gift from the community of Hongkong to the Home Government. Before this aeroplane can be purchased, however, a further sum of \$8,000 must be obtained, and in view of the wealthy condition of the Colony, it should not be difficult for this amount to be raised.

A well-known local Englishman has intimated that, provided the balance of \$8,000 be raised by the 1st week in July, he will then contribute the entire cost of an additional aeroplane. Such a public-spirited and generous offer should be taken up in the manner in which it is made, and I therefore appeal to all members of the community to assist in complying with the condition which has been stipulated. I would point out that if 60 persons will contribute \$100 each the gift of two aeroplanes will become assured, and I shall welcome promises from intending subscribers of such an amount, but at the same time all smaller sums will be heartily welcomed and will be acknowledged in the local Press.—Yours faithfully,

JOS. J. BRYAN

(Hon. Corresponding Secretary to the Overseas Club). Public Works Department, Hongkong, 23rd May, 1917.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the above is to be held on Friday afternoon at the Council Chamber. The "orders of the day" are as follow:—

First reading of a Bill intitled, "An Ordinance to authorize the appropriation of a supplementary sum of two hundred and ninety-one thousand two hundred and seven dollars and ninety-seven cents to defray the charges of the year 1916."

First reading of a Bill intitled, "An Ordinance to amend the law relating to trading with the enemy and the export of prohibited goods."

First reading of a Bill intitled, "An Ordinance to repeal the North Borneo Extradition Ordinance, 1896."

First reading of a Bill intitled, "An Ordinance to amend further the War Loan Ordinance, 1916."

First reading of a Bill intitled, "An Ordinance to provide for a temporary increase in the rates for the special purpose of increasing the contributions of the Colony to His Majesty's Government towards the expenses of the present war."

THE WAR.

BRITISH ADVANCING. BRILLIANT FRENCH OPERATION ITALIAN OFFENSIVE. REVIVAL OF RUSSIA. IRELAND AND THE WAR.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

IMPORTANT FRENCH CAPTURES.
ENEMY POSITIONS BADLY SHAKEN.

LONDON, May 21st.
Reuter's Correspondent at the French Headquarters writes as follows:—Sunday's brilliant operation has given the French an effective possession of the chain dominating heights three miles long overlooking the valley of Suippe, between Auprevo and Nauray. The French command Moron Villers, and the group of heights threatens the strongholds from which the Germans are hammering Rheims. The group constituted a bastion on which the enemy based the security of his extreme left in the Aisne and Champagne battlefield, as the Craonne plateau buttressed his right. It was while the enemy, yesterday, was attempting to eject the French from Craonne Plateau that the latter captured the left buttress of the enemy line, and this success may have far-reaching strategic consequences.

HEAVY GERMAN LOSSES. NEARLY 10 DIVISIONS "WASH SHATTERED."

LONDON, May 21st.
Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters writes:—Over 200 enemy dead were counted in the Hindenburg line. In the operation called by Sir Douglas Haig yesterday, 170 were prisoners.
The enemy have employed 150 Divisions on the Western front since the beginning of the April offensive, of which nearly 100 have been pulled out war-shattered.

ARTILLERY DUEL. PILES OF GERMAN DEAD.

Paris, May 21st.
A communiqué says:—The artillery duel was continued at night south of the Chemin-des-Dames region, north-west of Braye-en-Laonnois, and on the Cerny and Hurtebise front. A German attack on Froimont Farm was broken before reaching our lines. We carried out last evening in the two sectors of Moronvillers and Massif a fairly important operation, which brilliantly succeeded. We carried several lines of trenches on the northern slopes of Mount Cornillet on the one side and Casque and Tenon on the other. We held all the important observation posts in this region. Our fire turned back German counter-attacks with huge losses. We prisoners 800, and found enemy dug-outs piled up with dead.

BRITISH GAIN NEW POSITIONS. HINDENBURG LINE ALMOST GONE.

LONDON, May 22nd.
Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—New positions on the Hindenburg line, north-westward of Bullecourt, were secured to-day with little interference from the enemy. The severity of the German losses in the recent fighting in this area is confirmed. Excepting a sector 2,000 yards in length immediately westward of Bullecourt, we hold the whole of the Hindenburg line from a point one mile eastward of Bullecourt to Arras.
A number of successful aerial and bombing raids were carried out yesterday. Aeroplanes actively co-operated with the infantry in attacking the enemy front-line trenches with machine-guns. Seven German aeroplanes were brought down, eight were driven down and one was shot down from the ground. Four of ours are missing.

NAVAL ACTIVITIES.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SWEDISH SHIPS SEIZED.
STOCKHOLM, May 22nd.
The Germans have seized three more Swedish ships.

General.

LATEST CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRAZIL REVOKES NEUTRALITY.
ANOTHER ALLY?

RIO JANEIRO, May 22nd.

The President has proposed to Parliament that the decree announcing Brazil's neutrality be revoked.

It is expected that this will be followed by Brazil entering the war on the side of the Allies.

LATER.

The Brazilian Congress has accepted the President's recommendation to revoke neutrality.

The President's message asks for the revocation of the neutrality decree "in consideration of the fact that the United States forms an integral part of the American Union, and the traditional policy of Brazil has always been regulated in perfect unity with the United States; also in consideration of the wishes of the great majority of Brazilians."

BRAZILIAN SHIP SUNK.

PARIS, May 22nd.

A submarine sunk the Brazilian steamer *Tajuca* off Brittany.
Some of the crew were saved.

ELECTORAL REFORM.

8,000,000 WOMEN VOTERS.

LONDON, May 22nd.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Cave, in moving the second reading of the Electoral Reform Bill, estimated that it would increase the voters by 8,000,000, of whom 6,000,000 would be women.

BIG BLAZE IN AMERICA.

NEW YORK, May 22nd.

A fire starting in the business quarter, and spreading to the residential quarter, destroyed 100 blocks of buildings at Atlantic. The damage is estimated at millions of dollars.

SHIPPING PROBLEMS.

WASHINGTON, May 22nd.

Mr. Balfour has discussed shipping problems with the United States Shipping Board. British experts had worked out the amount necessary to supply the Allies, and the Board drafted a programme accordingly.

ITALIAN MISSION.

WASHINGTON, May 22nd.

The Italian Mission has arrived in America.

AMERICA AND EXPORT OF COAL.

LONDON, May 22nd.

The *Times* correspondent at Buenos Aires states that the United States has threatened to restrict the export of coal unless actual scarcity justifies it.

M.P. KILLED IN ACTION.

LONDON, May 22nd.

Major Valentine Fleming, M.P., has been killed in action.

DEALING WITH IRELAND. THE TERMS OF SETTLEMENT. IMPORTANT SPEECHES.

LONDON, May 21st.

The following is a continuation of the discussion in the House of Commons relative to the Irish question, the first part of which appeared in our yesterday's issue:—

Mr. Lloyd George, after referring to the success of the methods of settlement, similar to that now proposed, in Canada, Australia and South Africa, added:—Of course no analogy of this kind is complete, but, still, it is sufficiently complete to demonstrate that equally refractory problems yield to goodwill and commonsense. In Canada and South Africa you had a conflict of races, and in at least one of them, a bitter conflict of creeds. In South Africa the banners of struggling races had only quite recently been steeped in the blood of their sons; yet goodwill and commonsense had triumphed there.

As far as possible we shall invite delegates to be chosen by bodies whom they represent. Where this is impossible, and we quite understand there may be cases where it will be desirable to have Irish interests represented which may not be chosen by any of the categories to which I have referred—other means will be taken to secure that every element of Irish opinion is present.

The Premier asked:—Would it be too much to hope that Irishmen of all creeds and parties might get together in convention for the purpose of drafting a constitution for their country which should secure a just balance of all the opposing interests, and finally compose the unhappy discords which have so long distracted Ireland, impeded its harmonious development, and now were a source of weakness to the people of these islands, during one of the greatest trials they had passed through.

The Government felt that a settlement would materially help towards the successful conclusion of the War. Evidence had accumulated from many quarters regarding the importance, from the war point of view, of getting this controversy settled. Mr. Hughes had never ceased to urge this consideration. Irishmen had a passionate love of liberty, and we wanted them to be ranged on the side of the Allies, and not to be torn by conflicting emotions. We should need all our strength to win a triumph worthy of the sacrifices we had made, and the Empire could not afford to have this unquelled sore, that sapped her vigour. He appealed to the patriotic spirit to help in the healing. (Cheers.)

After pledging the Government to give legislative effect to any substantial agreement, Mr. Lloyd George added that perhaps they ought to safeguard the Treasury, because Irishmen might become unanimous when there was a question of making a demand on the Imperial Exchequer. (Laughter.) He was unable to imagine Britain acting niggardily, but the Treasury must have a word to say, and he could only promise, on behalf of the Government, that should the Convention happily come to an agreement, they would not forget that restitution and reparation should begin at home.

With reference to the proposal that the Convention should sit behind closed doors, Mr. Lloyd George said this was necessary if it was to have any reasonable chance of success. The American States framed their constitution behind closed doors, so did Canada and South Africa, and he hoped there would be no publication of authorised or unauthorised proceedings until a conclusion was reached. Nothing would be more fatal than unauthorised paragraphs suggesting that one person or another was taking a certain line which was a betrayal of one interest or another. This would create a poisonous atmosphere which would be deadly to success. We propose to take steps as soon as practicable. There will be a good deal of conversation and discussion with reference to the basis of representation and bodies who shall nominate, but there will be no undue delay. We hope to be able to come to a definite decision in a very short time, and invitations will then be issued.

Mr. Lloyd George entreated the House to believe that nothing but pressing war considerations would have induced them to take up the settlement of so thorny a problem in the middle of the prosecution of this great war, but when they were engaged in a life and death struggle they did not want a rankling and festering quarrel on their hands that irritated, distracted and weakened. From the war view-point it was important to get the controversy settled in order to win the goodwill and co-operation of the Irish race throughout the world. He concluded that the entire strength of Britain and the whole-hearted support of Ireland as well were essential to victory. Therefore, he appealed to Irishmen of all faiths and political opinions, and especially to the patriotic spirit of Ulster.

Mr. Asquith declared that we had already proceeded a considerable distance towards a settlement. He pointed out that there was no dissent from the Government's proposal. On the contrary, a large part of the Irish nation heartily embraced it.

Sir Edward Carson said he had found no reason to modify the opinion which he had always held, that the best solution of Irish Government was the maintenance of the union. He did not know whether Ulster Unionists would accept the Government's invitation, but he emphasised that threats would not have the slightest effect. Whatever decision Ulster Unionists took, and he hoped it would be a wise one, he would be with them to the end. He had not the least intention of deserting them. He valued his honour more than anything he could owe to the Government.

Mr. Redmond said he was willing to agree to a limited representation of the Irish party, an equally large representation of the Ulster party, and a generous representation of the Sinn Féiners. He approved of the proposal to have a small nominated element, and also of the proposal that the Crown should nominate a Chairman, who, he hoped, would be a man of great and distinguished judgment, of proved experience and of undoubted impartiality. He had a sure hope that the result of the Convention would be a blessing for Ireland and the Empire. He wholeheartedly hoped, also, that the Convention would be animated by a true spirit of conciliation among all Irishmen.

Sir J. Lonsdale, speaking for the Ulster party, said the whole proposal would be submitted to the people of Ulster with the recommendation that they should consider it carefully. Ulster people would be guided by the same patriotic motives which had always guided them. Although he could not feel sanguine that the Convention would accomplish the purpose designed, he and his colleagues would not take the responsibility of closing the door upon the experiment.

After further speeches, the Ireland subject dropped.

The speeches have created a favourable impression in the Lobby.

The Nationalists greatly appreciated Sir Edward Carson's attitude, and are confident that a representative Convention will be formed.

STATEMENT IN THE LORDS.

SPEECH BY LORD CURZON

In the House of Lords, Lord Curzon made a statement on the same lines as Mr. Lloyd George. He said it would be a national misfortune if any one of the Irish parties held aloof from the proposed Convention. Grave responsibility would rest on the leaders who elected to abstain.

Lord Curzon made a most impressive speech on behalf of the Irish Convention. He emphasised that the Government's proposals were as much a war measure as any Emergency Act passed. He also said that at each stage of the war, while he was a member of the Government, it had been brought home to all of them that the condition of Ireland had been a source not of strength but of weakness to the common cause. There was no month but that the figure of Ireland had arisen like a spectre across their path. Ireland, indeed, presented two faces:

one turned towards the battlefield with all the chivalrous ardour and personal courage for which the race had been always conspicuous, and which never shone with brighter lustre than during this war. The other face was averted from the struggle, exhibiting discontent and even an angry mien; still playing on ancient wrongs, still suspicious of British Governments, and still declining to join wholeheartedly in the supreme effort of the united Anglo-Saxon race. They had seen the unhappy, he might almost say calamitous, effects of this disunion in every field of action at home, where it had not been without considerable effect on the attitude of Trade Unions and great labour communities, whose co-operation was such a potent factor of our strength, and in Ireland, where such deplorable events had occurred which none could think of except with a sense of shame. It affected our armies in the field, which would have been all the stronger in numbers but for this fatal joint in our armour. It was also not without its effect on our Allies, who wondered at our failure to do for ourselves what we had succeeded in doing for others; and what even in this war we are endeavouring to do for four other peoples. It had also given the enemy abundant opportunity to blaspheme and to practise the arts and propaganda of intrigue in which he had excelled. But the effects had spread even to a wider field.

One who had attempted to follow the recent course of events, especially in Canada and Australia, could not have failed to see that their splendid efforts were tinged with some sense of disappointment, and that these efforts would have been greater still had not the shadow of a discontented Ireland fallen across our path. Nobody in touch with American thought could doubt that immense impetus would be given to America to prosecute the war if only she knew that this rift in the lute was closed, and that the Anglo-Saxon race was bending its undivided energies to the pursuance of a common end.

He did not believe that America had any more desire to interfere in our domestic affairs at the present juncture than we had with hers, but a man must be affected if he did not appreciate that the co-operation of America would be more hearty and more fruitful if she could feel that Ireland, with which she had so many associations, was pulling its full weight in comity with the free Allied nations. America realised, as we had realised, that to win the victory we desired, the full strength of the British Empire must be turned to that purpose, and a united and reconciled Ireland would be an important addition to that strength.

The settlement of the Irish question has emerged as a world factor of such capital importance that it might affect the fortunes of Great Britain in the war and the destinies of mankind for generations. If the effort was to be made none could dispute that it should be made without delay. Since the beginning of the war the situation in Ireland had grown not better but worse, and if left alone it might grow even worse. In that case, if we faltered or drifted, not merely would we parade our bankrupt statesmanship before the world, but we would have earned the deserved condemnation of posterity.

Referring to the importance of the proposals in the first part of Mr. Lloyd George's letter, his lordship said that though they momentarily disappeared they might re-emerge later in perhaps a more acceptable form. He then described precedents for the Convention and its constitution similarly to the Premier, and concluded:—It was beyond measure desirable that representatives from all those bodies and parties should attend. It would be a national misfortune if any stood aloof, and a grave responsibility would rest upon any of those bodies who elected to abstain. Many of their lordships had great weight and authority in Ireland, and he prayed them to use their influence to dissuade the people from such an unfortunate and disastrous course

as to abstain. The tide was running fast in Ireland, and he prayed God that on this occasion they might not miss it. (Cheers.)

Lord Curzon proceeded:—When the war is over and we have commenced the task of reconstructing, which will be not less difficult and anxious than the conduct of the war itself, who could doubt that a contented Ireland would be an asset of immeasurable value to the future settlement of the interests of the British Empire. Who could doubt that Great Britain would be a more powerful figure at the peace conference if she could speak with the united voice of all her sons. Might not such a consummation pave the way for that world co-operation of the three greatest liberty-loving nations of the earth, France, the United States and ourselves, upon whose close communion and interdependence of action he believed the future of civilisation to a large extent depended.

Lord Lansdowne said he accepted the proposed Convention, and said that one fact seemed to dominate the situation. We had travelled so far along the road to Home Rule that we now felt it impossible to turn abruptly backwards. The Convention might do immense good, he could not see what harm it could do. If a solution of the question was not forthcoming, it would be shown that the fault was not the Government's but that of the Irish themselves.

Viscount Middleton said that whatever was done they must secure a large loyal element in the Convention and make it clear to that loyal element they will have an adequate share in the Government.

Lord Londonderry, in a maiden speech, said those upholding our cause on the battlefield would ask why this settlement plan had been produced in their absence, but strong though his hereditary convictions were he would welcome any argument which would furnish a solution of the problem.

Lord Selbourne agreed with Lord Lansdowne that it was impossible to return to the past. This was no longer a question for the United Kingdom, but for the Empire.

Lord Beresford hoped that Irishmen in the Convention would settle the Irish question, which Englishmen would never be able to do.

NEWSPAPER COMMENTS.

The newspapers generally welcome the Convention, but comments on the outcome are cautious, and none too hopeful of success. It is pointed out that although the speeches in Parliament showed a remarkable change in the atmosphere, the crux of the difficulty, namely, the exclusion of north-east Ulster, remains. The strongest hope is based on the attitude of Lord Lansdowne and Sir Edmund Curzon. The latter's speech is regarded as a better augury than Lord Lansdowne's. The *Daily Telegraph* interprets the general feeling in Parliament as recognising that the Convention, if held, may easily fail, but success is not precluded, and the experiment ought to be made with goodwill.

The *Daily Chronicle* says:—If the Convention is convened on the crest of the incoming tide, it may be carried to land.

The *Times* comments on the patriotic courage of the commonsense Ulster M.P.s in refusing to shut the door to the hope of a settlement, however slender they may think it. The *Times* does not doubt that the Ulster leaders will recommend acceptance by the Ulster Council. The *Daily Mail* says:—The probabilities are that the Convention will meet, and it will put Ireland very definitely on trial before the Empire and the world. This test will be most thoroughly, whatever capacity constructive Statesmanship possesses.

The *Daily News* rejoices that the representation will include social, economic and intellectual elements. It says that this variety is most comprehensive and contains the promise of a satisfactory issue. The *Morning Post* says:—It must not be forgotten that the Government of Ireland is not a purely Irish question, because the security of Great Britain largely depends on Ireland, which is the postern through which every enemy has hitherto tried to enter. Therefore, Great Britain cannot carry into effect the Convention decisions unless they do not injure the interests and security of the Kingdom.

There is a rumour in connection with the Chairman of the proposed Convention, and the names mentioned include General Smuts, Mr. Asquith, Mr. Lowther, Mr. Shaftesbury and Lord Dunsborough.

(Continued on page 6.)

GERMAN FINANCIAL SPY AND "SCREW" SYSTEMS.

SENSATIONAL REVELATIONS AT A LONDON MASS MEETING.

IMMEDIATE CLOSURE OF GERMAN BANKS DEMANDED.

Some sensational statements were made at a mass meeting held in the Great Hall of Cannon-street Hotel, London, recently under the auspices of the British Empire Union, "to urge the Government to cancel the licenses granted to the German banks and to close up their business forthwith."

Lord Leith of Fyvie, who presided, said: "These German banks differ entirely from English banks. The latter are purely organised to do a banking business, the primary purpose of German banks is to develop the commerce of the German Empire—(hear, hear)—by insidious penetration, at all times by the advice and direction of their secret service and spy departments. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Massey (the Prime Minister and representative of New Zealand), at a meeting held lately, said: 'We who are in the midst of the Empire must see that the peace when it comes will not be an intermittent peace, just to last a sufficient period to enable Germany to recover its strength, and get into a position to attack us again.' (Cheers.) The necessity of taking this in hand at once is that Germany is preparing for peace as thoroughly as she prepared for war. But look out, the moment peace parleys begin in earnest, then this country will be flooded with German-made literature, arguments, and pleadings, all cleverly disguised, and probably there will be plenty of people—called peace cranks, pacifists, etc., and I am sorry to say, a certain number of pro-Germans will also join hands to create a peace undesirable and detrimental to the Empire." (Hear, hear.)

MR. RONALD McNEILL'S SPEECH.
Mr. Ronald McNeill, M.P.: "Now, at first sight, it may appear to be an act of some audacity for a person who makes no pretence of being a trained financial expert to address a meeting in the City of London upon such a subject as this. But if I had to excuse my presence here, I would be on the ground that I entirely repudiate the notion that the question of eradicating the influence from among us of the enemy whom we are now fighting is a matter entirely for experts. (Cheers.) When the decision is made upon that subject, it will be a decision, not of a group of experts, but of the British nation. (Hear, hear.) And it is a matter upon which any one of us—ordinary man or woman—of common sense is amply entitled to express an opinion. I am, of course, well aware that the operations of banking are conducted in an intricate network of technicalities, with the coils of which it is very easy for an expert to stifle the voice of those who he may consider uninitiated."

FOSTERING ENEMY INTERESTS.
I can almost imagine the gentleman of the expert class saying when a proposal of this nature is made to him, 'Well, that is a proposal that would have very far-reaching effects, and it will require very careful consideration.' (Laughter.) Well, by all means let us have as careful a consideration as you like, always provided that we start with one axiomatic proposition, and that is that no proposal you can make will have so far-reaching effect, or so disastrous an effect, as if you were to fail to drive Germany from her trenches and dug-outs in the lines of British commerce, just as we are now driving her from villages that she has defiled in France. (Cheers.) Now, during the two and a half years which we have passed through in this awful struggle we have had to endure the shame—for it is nothing else—of seeing the Government of this country carefully fostering enemy interests, and enemy influence in our social, commercial, and financial life. (Cheers.) Not the most delicate and lovely plant could have been cultivated and watered with more devoted care than has been bestowed upon this poisonous weed which has defouled our good English soil—(cheers)—and of all the specimens of that weed there is none more poisonous than the German banks, and for this reason—that the German banks have been generating plants which have supplied power to the whole network, not merely of German financial intrigue, but, as Lord Leith has so well pointed out, to the whole network of German political activity. (Hear, hear.) They have combined the two, and the object—and that is what we have to consider—like that of their political and financial intrigue has been in the long run to encompass first the complete penetration dominating the British Empire and in the end its destruction. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Ronald McNeill demonstrated to the complete satisfaction of his audience what had been the real result of the preservation of the German banks. In effect, we had actually been using the credit of the British Government to bolster up German institutions. Mr. McNeill took the view that rather than see the German banks put in the Bankruptcy Court, with resulting immense damage to German credit, the German Government would have remitted funds to make up the shortage existing in all cases except that of the Deutsche Bank.

ENGLISHMAN OF WILD BEASTS.

He proceeded: "Assuming for a moment that that supposition was wrong, and that the Germans, without making any fight at all, had been willing to accept that blow to their credit, however unlikely it seemed, would the British creditors then have had a fall? Not at all. The second way in which they might have safeguarded the British creditors was by our own Government, through the Bank of England, making advances. (Hear, hear.) In other words, our Government should have come forward and said: 'We will meet the debts of the British creditors of these enemy concerns by advances, which might be dealt with afterwards in the ordinary course.' He could imagine a gentleman of nice legal precision possibly saying: 'That is all very well; but you have forgotten that if those banks were in liquidation—were in the Bankruptcy Court—you could not come forward and give a preference to one class of creditors over the rest.' His answer to that was a very simple one:—When he saw an Englishman fighting with a wild beast he was prepared to give him preference over the wild beast—(loud cheers)—and if our very complicated, old-fashioned, peace-oddian bankruptcy law would not bear the strain of giving an Englishman preference over a wild beast, he would answer for it by saying that a necessary urgency act could have been passed through Parliament within twenty-four hours. (Renewed cheers.) These enemy banks were kept in being by our Government, controlled day by day by uninitiated Huns—their own managers and those concerns were actually in a position to issue a malicious slander against the credit of a British firm. They had to be taken into court. (Cries of "Shame!") He had always heard of the school days that *inter arma silent leges*, and he thought if that had any application it would have laid it down that the Germans should have no *locom standi* in any British court. (Hear, hear.)

AIM OF THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP THE BANKS ALIVE.

Some purists suggested that our Government might have financed British holders of acceptances, and that that might have been a very strong use to make of British money and British credit. He (the speaker) did not think so. What the Government did was not merely to finance the British holders of acceptances, but to finance the whole volume of acceptances of those banks; in other words, they were not ready to come forward and help the Englishman who found himself suddenly at the outbreak of war in the unfortunate position of being a creditor in a Hun bank. They were not willing to do that unless at the same time they gave the same protection to every neutral holder and every enemy holder. Every bank was put on exactly the same footing, and was given the assistance of the Government through the Bank of England. What was the effect of that upon the German banks? He did not think that there was the slightest doubt that the aim of the Government was to keep the banks alive and their businesses alive, and the consequence of doing that was that more than the protection which an ordinary British institution would get—privileges, owing to circumstances which had arisen, greater than would have been given under ordinary circumstances to any British bank. If he could have been any doubt about the aim of the Government, he thought it was set rest by Sir William Plender himself, because he told them in his report that liquidation was even contemplated in the directions he received from the Government—(Shame!)—because the Government, as he (the speaker) said, they were anxious to keep the banks alive until, as they thought, this more or less inconvenient episode of European war should pass away, and the financial operations of London went on, on the old footing—business as usual. (Laughter.) If he was right in saying that in case of insolvency the head offices made remittances, the effect of the Government's action was to relieve the head banks in Germany and the German Government of the necessity of meeting their own liabilities. (Cheers.)

BRITISH MONEY SUPPORTS GERMAN CREDIT.
In other words, it was a fact that at the outbreak of war, astonishing as it might seem, we were using the credit of the City of London and the credit of the British Government to support German credit throughout the world. It involved an advance of some £12,000,000 of money from the Bank of England to these banks under a Government guarantee. (Cheers.) If his information was correct, the terms of the advance, and its very significant, were "for the duration of the war and for twelve months longer." What did that mean? What it meant was that there might be an ample margin after the war was over to arrange repayments in order to make good certain that there should be no permanent disturbance of the operations of the banks. (Cries of "Shame," and "Voices:—'Shoot them' and 'Impeach them.'")

SELL THE SECURITIES.

The actual amount of the securities now held in those banks amounted to, he believed, about £26,000,000, and he simply laid it down as a proposition, which no one would contradict, that they ought to have been realised and the debt to the Bank of England and British creditors satisfied at once which would enable the banks to be wound up and their Hun managers interned. (Applause.) He was found not large place in Sir William Plender's very able report, dealing with exact legality or illegality of the way they ought to treat those securities. He cared very little for that. One simple, plain, and obvious fact was quite enough for him, and that was that here, in this country, we had a very large block of valuable German securities, and what they ought to do was to lay hands upon them. (Cheers.) Having done so, what he told them there would be difficulty in determining the exact ownership of various creditors when one group of creditors after another were satisfied, but he would tell them how he would deal with them. He would satisfy the British creditors of the banks first. He would then find out what balance there was, and he would apply

(1)—In supplying some of the shipping which had been destroyed by German submarines, and

(2)—In compensating Englishmen whose homes had been destroyed by Zeppelins. (Cheers.)

THE PRACTICAL MAN WHO THINKS ONLY OF HIMSELF.

He could not understand the spirit of an Englishman who was prepared after this war, and after the way this war had been fought, to sit down at the same table with a German, still less to take the hand of a German. (Loud cheers.) But they knew from sad experience that there was almost nothing that some men would not do for gain. (Hear, hear.) We thought a man had sunk pretty low before, for example, he was willing to sell his mother's grave for a sovereign, or before he was willing to traffic with his sister's honour, and he maintained that it was on a level with those things to contemplate the possibility of associates with that race of men who had ravished and slain and devastated and defiled wherever they had been able to spread beyond their own borders. It was on a level with those things to contemplate transactions about which he could not argue, but which they felt in the very bottom of their souls.

Since the war they had learnt that German commerce and German finance, which they were trying to weed out, was the handmaid of German statecraft. They knew that every acceptance by a German bank was an instrument of Prussian policy. Its business was tainted with something, from our point of view, far more heinous than fraud. It was an evil that ought to be purged out of us more sedulously and more radically than the most insidious disease. (Cheers.) But he could imagine the scornful cold water that might be poured upon propositions such as those from the mouth of the individual known to us all who boasts that he was a practical man. The practical man was a man who would say:

"Oh! that is all very well; that is the language of hysteria, the language of violence." Yes; that was the same sort of man in whose ears the very music of the spheres would be less lovely than the chink of the shillings in his pocket. (Laughter and cheers.) That class of man we would always have among us. He had never yet learnt, and probably never would learn, the great, enduring, and immortal principle that "life is more than meat and the body than raiment." He concluded by moving the following resolutions:—That this public meeting calls upon the Government to—

(1)—To forthwith annul all licenses to alien enemy banks, and to withdraw all instructions for the continuation of business;

(2)—To forthwith close these banks, leaving the Official Liquidator to deal with any outstanding balances, the purpose being to eliminate the possibility of there being any representatives of German banks and institutions in this country; and

(3)—To forthwith appoint a commission of business men with full powers, to examine, analyse, and report upon the affairs of the banks, and the business done by them for the three years immediately preceding the declaration of war."

DR. ELLIS POWELL'S SPEECH.

Dr. Ellis Powell, who was received with loud applause, seconding the resolution, said: "We had learnt our lesson, a bitter, bitter lesson—and this old land would be much older still before we gave the German economic assassin another chance to work for our undoing. We had found the German, whether on the stricken field or in the financial arena, to be much less of an open sportsman than a secret assassin. (Hear, hear, and applause.)"

THE FOUR BIG "D'S."

The principal instruments of German financial intrigue were known as "the four D's"—Deutsche, Dresdner, and Darmstadter Banks and the Disconto-Gesellschaft. We had had the dubious pleasure of welcoming three of them in London—three D's, whose work might be characterised by another three D's—as Dastardly, Devastating, and Diabolical. (Laughter and applause)—as well as another D which he would not particularise. (Laughter.) The German banks and the German brokers were, in fact, parts of a vast organisation of espionage and betrayal. The typical illustrative case was that of the City of London returned unexpectedly to his office at ten o'clock at night and found the two German clerks busy making duplicates of his books, for transmission to Berlin. Not a single transaction passed through a German bank in London, or through the books of a naturalised German broker, or of a German "trade protection" society, without being sucked dry of all the information which could be extracted therefrom with regard to the financial and commercial status and capacity of the parties. The so-called German "trade protection" agencies were all playing the same game. A duplicate of every entry, every fact, every figure—aye, every comma and every semicolon—went to Berlin, and was there docketed for use. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

THREE PURPOSES IN VIEW.

Three purposes were served by this mean and dirty system. In the first place, it gave our German trade rivals an unfair advantage in all the markets of the world. All our secrets were known to them. They competed with the same advantage as the contractor who has managed to steal a copy of his rival's tender. So far from regarding our hospitality by playing the game, Germany had behaved in as dastardly a manner as a bowler on a cricket field who was more concerned to maim or cripple the batsman than to take his wicket by bowling a fair ball. (Hear, hear.) He would give a couple of specimens. Von Gwinner, a director of the Deutsche Bank and a champion Prussian spy. He had a working alliance with Krupp, the huge German armament firm. He had married into the Speyer family—(hisses)—and therefore was influentially connected with the British Privy Council. (Laughter, and "Shame.") When an English firm was in competition with Krupp for a foreign order full details of its financial position

and resources would be furnished to Krupp. The London branch of the Deutsche Bank got the facts and figures by means of Gwinner's elaborate spy system. In many instances even the amount of the English tender, or the rate at which the contractors were to be assisted by their bankers was made known to Krupp, who could then cut the price and secure the order. A British firm, about to compete for a Belgian order, incautiously opened an account with the Deutsche Bank. All information about its position was instantly transmitted to Berlin, for the benefit of the competing German firm, which, thanks to its possession of that knowledge, got the order. That was the system, whose racially exalted Treasury was at this moment engaged in protecting from well-earned extinction. (Hear, hear, and "Shame.")

CALCULATING THE WAR INDEMNITY.

The second purpose of the German bank organisation in London was ancillary to the first. It was to obtain an exact and exhaustive survey and record of our resources and their whereabouts with a view to the estimate of the maximum war indemnity that could be exacted from us. We had never prepared a census of our own national wealth. But the Kaiser, thanks to the German and naturalised German banks, firms, companies, and brokers, knew to a penny what we were worth, and where the wealth was to be found. Supplied with official and unofficial, disguised and obvious, and achieved its object, and we had been brought helpless to the feet of the German conqueror. We were to be asked for an indemnity of £20,000,000,000. If we had pleaded that we could not possibly pay, we should have been shown a census of our own wealth, a minute and detailed record of all our financial, industrial, and commercial interests, put together by the foulest system of treachery and double-dealing that had ever been witnessed in the history of the world.

Our remonstrance about the amount of the indemnity would have been met with a similarly scathing rejoinder. "Look at our ledgers, wherein exact statistics of your wealth have been compiled by our own banks, with the co-operation of certain of your own politicians, who have countenanced our plans." (Sensation.)

PREPARATION FOR DEFEAT.

In his third objective the German had prepared for defeat; or, rather, he had devised a plan which would enable him to turn defeat into victory. German banks and brokers had made it their special business to discover "useful" secrets—such as share gambling by politicians, or politicians' meddlesome, spiteful, and frivolous wives. (Loud and prolonged applause.) They had not stayed at discovery, either. They had incited such transactions, and had even provided "accommodation" for eminent operators. Further, with superhuman cunning, they had suggested that the transactions should be done in cash, done in Hamburg, for "concealment's sake," as they said. The real reason was that the operator, should in that way provide conclusive evidence of his own guilty furtiveness. He would therefore be a more helpless victim when "pressure" was applied, by means of the German screw, for the furtherance of the stricken field or in the financial arena, to be much less of an open sportsman than a secret assassin. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

EXPLOSIVE SECRETS.

Thus far we had been prevented by the Unseen Hand from knowing any of the deadly secrets, which were concealed in the books of German banks and German brokers. For instance, he (the speaker) was in a position to affirm that the Dresdner Bank's dispatch—or attempted dispatch—of securities and documents to Berlin on the eve of war was known to the Treasury within a month of its occurrence. Yet the whole thing had been concealed from the public, and was, in fact, still concealed so far as officialdom could compass it, though the cat had been let out of the bag by *The Financial News* and the *Daily Mail*. Further, he was informed that an immense mass of documents and securities belonging to the Disconto-Gesellschaft was allowed to be dispatched to Germany on the Ambassador's boat after the declaration of war. (Hear, hear.) This transaction would have been stopped, but, as he understood, the Cabinet Minister intervened in the transit for Germany, and secured safe resources. (Sensation and general applause.) He (the speaker) had positive documentary evidence of the Dresdner Bank outrages. He had no such positive evidence in the case of the Disconto, but he had no doubt of the truth of what he said. It was, however, useless to ask public questions. The people who had perpetrated these scandals were all lying low, in the hope that the storm would blow over without their cowardly anticipations would be falsified. (Hear, hear.)

DEUTSCHE AND DISCONTO.

He would give recent instances of the working of the Unseen Hand to foster the interests of these concerns. In October last, at the Eastbourne Police-court, a *Marconi* Restriction Order, for changing his residence without furnishing the Registrar with the proper particulars. He (the speaker) knew that Guttschow was the London manager of the Disconto-Gesellschaft. He also surmised that under "influential auspices" that fact would be carefully concealed from the Eastbourne Bench. He therefore sent a supporter specially to hear the case. The supporter told him that from first to last the cardinal fact of the case, viz., Disconto-Gesellschaft, was never allowed to be mentioned. Not only that, but the point of the fact that Guttschow held a very big position in the City of London. (Laughter.) What was the result? Guttschow was let off with the ridiculous

fine of 6s. ("Shame.") In order to clinch the matter he (the speaker) caused inquiries to be made in quarters closely connected with the Disconto-Gesellschaft as to Guttschow's identity. He had the utmost difficulty in obtaining any information whatever, although at last he did succeed in getting it admitted, without explanation, that Guttschow was an Englishman who, last year, committed an analogous offence, was fined—*not 6s., but £100*. (Hisses.) Take one more case. There was recently put down for trial a libel action brought by a well-known English firm—J. Lionel Barber & Co., against the Deutsche Bank. The libels consisted in letters and cables sent to South America damaging the credit of the English firm and imputing that they had failed to meet their obligations. The cables were essential to the success of the English plaintiffs. From first to last they received not the very smallest assistance from the controller of the Deutsche Bank. In fact, so sedulously were German interests protected that the English firm had to search all the cable offices, and finally subpoena the Western Union Cable Co., at the last moment, to produce documents which ought to have been submitted by the Controller in the first instance. Mark the sequel. The jury found a verdict for £5,000 damages against the Deutsche Bank. Did they think that the English plaintiffs got their money? No. The German bank at once obtained a stay of execution on the terms of the money being brought into court. If the case ended the other way, in judgment for the Deutsche Bank, would the English plaintiffs have had a stay of execution? ("No.") The Treasury would have compelled them to pay up, no matter at what cost to themselves. But, then, the English plaintiffs, unlike German banks, did not enjoy political protection. And in the face of damning facts like these Mr. Herbert Samuel had the effrontery to stand up in the House of Commons and declare that the Unseen Hand was a myth! Talk about the "hidden plague!" Why, there were two hidden plagues, and German finance was the more virulent of the pair. (Loud applause.)

POLITICO-FINANCIAL CONFEDERATION.

The truth was that these banks were parts of a vast politico-financial organisation which stretched from the United States, across Great Britain, and right across the Continent of Europe to Constantinople. It was an organisation of dominance throughout the world. It numbered among its partners, or sympathisers, or business associates, various financiers and politicians in all countries. Among its obscure agents were Tribuna Lincoln and Mrs. Wheelton. All close students of European intrigue knew of it. For instance, there was no higher authority on such subjects than Mr. Wickham Steed, the foreign editor of the *Times*. In an article in the *Edinburgh Review* for January Mr. Steed told us the reason why the Kaiser, as to be protected and pampered in the peace. The Anglo-German-American intrigues now "realise the destruction of the Hapsburg Monarchy would strike the power of Prussia-Germany a deadly blow." (1) By removing from German control some £2,000,000 of the 51,000,000 Hapsburg subjects of whom Germany now disposes; and (2) by cutting in two the vast financial organisation that controls the economic affairs of the Balkans and to the East. It was really, though not avowedly, of their half that the financier of New York, J.P. Morgan, strove, and is still striving, to promote a movement for immediate peace. If the war could be stopped there would be some chance of preventing the relaxation of German economic and financial grip upon the world, and of retaining the lands of the Hapsburg crown as a German fief."

AN INTERESTING CASE.

If they required proof of the business association of the German banks and financiers with politicians and other classes of person in all lands—unfortunately including our own—they could have nothing better than one glaring fact: In the last and biggest politico-financial share deal of the century—the Marconi affair—(hear, hear)—various interests, adjusted their bargains by means of American Marconi shares taken from a single fund. Among those interests were numbered one of the German banks, a German-American conspirator, a member of His Majesty's Government—("Name!")—and a Belgian who acted as a "Name!" penetration" agent. ("Name!") If they wanted the names, they were (1) the Dresdner Bank, 3,000 shares; (2) Mr. Jacob Schiff, the notorious German "pacer," 50,000 shares; and (3) His Majesty's Attorney-General—the present Lord Chief Justice—10,000 shares; and (4) Colonel Thys—a German "penetration" agent at Brussels, 2,500 shares. People said "Give us facts." Well, there were facts and names. He (the speaker) publicly challenged contradiction either from the Dresdner Bank or Schiff, or the Lord Chief Justice. (Loud applause and cries of "Bravo.") He could not challenge Thys, who was dead. For one case of this species which had thus escaped into the light there were, no doubt, a hundred relating to different episodes and different persons which were being carefully concealed. (Hear, hear.) The banks knew so much that they could defy suppression at the hands of the "old gang" by the mere threat to blurt out damning facts. It was never for the new men to act without regard to the secret and shabby considerations by extirpating a ring of Teuton fortresses which were a perpetual menace to our commercial and financial well-being. (Applause.) The purpose of that meeting was to strengthen Mr. Lloyd George's hands against the pro-German and naturalised German clique in high places. (Renewed applause.)

THE TRUTH COMING OUT.

Now they might begin to discern what was the nature of the political influence which had kept the German banks alive, protected the German firm and the German company, retained naturalised Germans on the Privy Council in derision of national sentiment, and vilest outrage of all—appointed a naturalised German as the supreme judge of appeal over British officers and soldiers. (Hear, hear, and "Shame.") These outrages were all parts of

the plan to keep the German foot on John Bull's neck, even if the British armies were victorious in the field. If we could not be defeated on land and sea we should be beaten at the peace, if a single German or naturalised German entrepreneur survived. The German banks were more than entrepreneurs, they were fortress years, thanks to the Unseen Hand. The Russians had found the Unseen Hand, and lopped it off. Well, one of its fingers in England was the German banks. Let us have that finger off by closing them. Then we can inspect their books to find the whereabouts of the other finger—unless parallel influences to those which paralysed Russia were also successfully employed to paralyse us.

GET BEHIND THE BANKS.

That was the way to do it. They would never know the real secret of the survival of German banks and German royal dukedom until they had acted upon the suggestion of their distinguished chairman, and explored the books of the German banks, the German brokers, and their political allies. Quite recently they had had a report on the banks by the chairman of the London County and Westminster Bank and Lloyds Bank. But these two gentlemen say that their instructions were to take the report (of December 16th, 1916) as a base. That restriction utterly shut out all inquiry into the deadly political secrets which more exhaustive investigation might have discovered. Rejected by Treasury officials were utterly useless. These people were parts of the machinery of humbug and concealment. They wanted to put all that rubbish on the scrap heap, to substitute energy, honesty, and patriotism for dilly-dallying, concealment, and phib-Germanism. They looked to Mr. Bonar Law to do it, and they were there to offer their earnest and enthusiastic support to the enterprise. (Hear, hear.) They must get round behind the banks, and then they would discover the Unseen Hand. So far the mysteries of the German banks, like the real facts about Donnington Hall, had been concealed by influential tactics, as one way of indicating highly-placed contempt for the British people. It was part of the Germans' plan to poison British public life with German money, just as nowadays they poisoned French wells with arsenic.

"They poison the air above,
They poison the walls below,
They poison pity and Love
With the fumes of Hate and Woe,
They poison the heavens clear,
They poison the ocean's swell;
Satan reaps in fact,
Lest they should poison Hell."

(Applause and roars of laughter.) If they got a business committee to work there would soon be explosions that would blow up the German entrenchments in London. (Hear, hear.) Only the Committee must be composed of fearless and incorruptible men, determined that the deadly truth should be made known, no matter what pretensions personality was toppled over in the process. Fearless they must be, for they would be threatened with the Public Prosecutor or with the resentment of Judges and other highly placed people. Incorruptible they must also be, for within twenty-four hours of the appointment of the Committee every member of it would know that if the promise of future baronetcy or earldom would buy his silence it was his for the asking. ("You are right!" and applause.) That was the kind of thing they were up against, to say nothing of the probable destruction of records, or re-writing of books, during the last two and half years, in order to defeat investigation. It might be said that such tactics as these verged upon criminality. Yes, there were pro-German influences among the capable of protecting criminals engaged in the suppression of evidence that menaced scheming politicians. ("Hear, hear" and "Shame.")

THE BOILING POINT ATTAINED.

It had been asked what good was done by holding these meetings. He could assure them that the results had been more than satisfactory. The repeated report of the last meeting in that hall had been sold by tens of thousands and eagerly perused by all classes of the community. (Applause.) Public indignation had literally reached the boiling point at the present stage of this internal and sleepless treachery that permeated every department of our national life. A veteran public man, whose recollections covered the last half century, had said at the other day: "You boys have kindled a fire which can never be checked or quenched until Germanism is consumed." (Loud applause and "Hear, hear.") Well, they were there to-day to add fuel to the flame by the demands incorporated in the resolutions which they were asked to support. These laws and dens of treachery must not be preserved intact, ready to facilitate preparations for the next war. He would remind them that they were not concerned alone with the interests of a living England. They owed responsibilities and relentlessness in this matter to the memory of the so-called dead who slept in the myriad graveyards along the Western Front. (Subdued applause.) These men had died in the hope that their sacrifice would win and that their England, in high places in the State, were powers who intended if they could, to make those deaths a mockery and a laughing stock by preserving, and consolidating every German interest in the midst, and by betraying us utterly at the peace if we could not be told during the war. (Hear, hear.) We ought to be ashamed of ourselves that a country two centuries old should have shown us how to deal with this accursed thing. (Loud and prolonged applause.) Even if we had to re-erect and relay the whole of our constitutional foundations—"Hear, hear" and general applause)—in order to eradicate the curse of Germanism, and pro-Germanism, and naturalised Germanism, as represented by these banks from among us, not only now, but for ever. (Hear, hear" and general applause.)

The resolution was carried with enthusiasm, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

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SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	S KASHIMA MARU	THURSDAY,	24th
	Capt. Tanaka	May, at 11 A.M.	

SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	S MISHIMA MARU	TUESDAY,	5th
	Capt. Nishimura	June, at 11 A.M.	

YOKOHAMA	ASAHI MARU	TUESDAY,	5th
	Capt. K. Lee	June, at Noon.	

SHANGHAI MOJI and KOBE	PENANG MARU	SUNDAY,	27th
	Capt. Kishibiki	May, at Noon.	

SHANGHAI MOJI and KOBE	TOTOMI MARU	THURSDAY,	7th
	Capt. Kameda	June, at Noon.	

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SHINYO MARU	22,000 — 21 knots	FRI., 22nd June
PERSEA MARU	9,000 — 14 knots	TUES., 3rd July
KORRA MARU	18,000 — 18 knots	TUES., 17th July
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"AMAKUSA MARU"	... SUNDAY,	27th May, at Noon.
"JOSEPH MARU"	... MONDAY,	28th May, at 3 A.M.

These Formosan Liners will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 74 will be kept.

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